

**Salem POCD Sub-Committee  
Scheduled Meeting  
August 2, 2010  
Minutes**

**Call to Order:** Gloria Fogarty called the meeting to order at 7:35PM.

Members present: Linda Schroeder, Sue Spang, Sally Snyder, Bill Schultz, Jim Fogarty and Gloria Fogarty.

**Public Comments:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Correction on page 2 – Last bullet should read “It was noted that Jim Burke has created a master plan for the parking lot and driveway of the Salem baseball fields”. M/S/A; Sue/ Linda.

**Old Business:**

- **Discussion of Agriculture Section, led by Linda Schroeder.**  
Linda brought in a copy of the 2001 Town of Salem Natural Resources Inventory; Eric Belt is currently upgrading the document  
Linda offered her first draft rewrite of the goals, objectives and recommendations section of the proposed POCD. She offered a modification of 2.1. Goal to comply with the State’s current long-term goal of having 50% of Ct’s in-season produce needs and 50% of our dairy needs met by in-state food production groups. It was noted that P&Z has already created a “floating zone” (as recommended in the previous POCD) to ensure that lands most suited for farming are available for farming and to reduce the possibility that incompatible land uses may encroach upon active farms. Thus, we were able to eliminate Recommendations 2.1.1.1 and 2.1.1.2 from the previous POCD.
- **2.1.1 Objective – preserve farmland.**
- **2.1.2.1. Recommendation** – Linda expanded upon this recommendation as follows: Establish an inventory of existing farmland, both permanently preserved and 490 status properties, and update the list with the publication of each POCD. (as of 2010, Salem reportedly has 200 registered farmers and 800 acres of permanently preserved farmland; the number of farmers is questionable, as it may include individuals with forestry lands – Linda will research to clarify)  
We all agreed to eliminate recommendations 2.1.2.2., 2.1.2.3. (because the protection of rural features is addressed in other, more appropriate sections of the POCD, and 2.1.2.4.)
- Linda offered a **new objective: Encourage outlets in Salem for the sale of regionally and locally grown agricultural products.**

- **2.1.3.1. Recommendation:** Add Farming and associated activities to a list of economic development projects for Salem.
- **2.1.3.2. Recommendation:** Promote new farming and marketing approaches such as Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), where customers purchase shares in the year's crop prior to planting by the farmer.
- **2.1.3.3. Recommendation:** Evaluate the feasibility and need for a one day/week regional farmer's market in Salem.
- **2.1.3.4. Recommendation:** Identify and include in P&Z regulations the various types of farming and associated activities presently in Salem, such as apiaries, feed stores, herb gardens, vegetable stands, vegetable farms, hay farms, horse farms (breeding, boarding training, showing facilities), dairy and beef cattle operations, silviculture, garden centers, orchards, nurseries and vineyards; also, identify recreational farming activities that could be encouraged such as "pick your own...apples, flowers, etc.", hay rides, corn mazes, and such.
- **2.1.4.1. Recommendation:** Continue to have the Town support a Community Garden where residents can have small plots to grow their own food.
- **2.1.4.2. Recommendation:** Consider offering a "Farm Tour Day" in Salem.

**Odds and Ends:** Sally agreed to research the management of water run-off from farms and what protection plans might be appropriate to recommend. We also discussed public education forums to address pesticide/fertilizer issues, riparian corridor protections and to offer advice regarding current "best management practices" as developed by conservation commissions and the USDA. Linda noted that it might be appropriate to ask P&Z to clarify some of the confusing concepts discussed in the Special Agriculture Zone Regulations, specifically, Section 30.5 Permitted Animal Units Per Acre.

**New Business:** None

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, August 18, 2010, 7:30PM at Salem Town Hall. Bill Schultz will present his work on Salem History and Archeology. Linda will rewrite and return a second draft, hopefully sometime in September.

**M/S/C (Sally Snyder/Bill Schultz) moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Gloria Fogarty**